intelligence agencies, reimbursement of security-related expenditure, providing training to State police forces, sharing of intelligence, bringing about inter-State coordination and assistance in development works. Close watch on the situation is maintained. Taking steps as appropriate and necessary, having regard to the situation obtaining, is a continuous process.

Legislation to combat terrorism

321. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that United Nations in its report has punched huge holes in India's anti-terrorism preparedness by publishing "India lacks capabilities to win terror war" as our terror finance laws do not comply with UN Resolution 1373;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that terrorism has reportedly claimed 70,000 lives over the years; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to bring forward any comprehensive counter terrorism legislation during the ensuing Session of Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) No such report titled "India lacks capabilities to win terror war" has been published by the United Nations.

(c) As per available information, a total of 5238 civilians and Security Forces have lost heir lives since 2005 to 31.10.2007 in Jammu & Kashmir, North-Eastern States and naxal affected areas and some other parts of the country due to terrorist violence.

(d) The unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 as amended in 2004, has the necessary provisions to deal with all facets of terrorism including financing of terrorism.

Red corridor by Maoists between AP and Chhattisgarh

322. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B. J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maoists propose to set up a red corridor to facilitate their movement between Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh;

(b) whether this will help the above wing to strengthen their position in several areas of South-West Orissa;

(c) whether armed naxals have been sighted along Ganjam-Kandhamal border in the above sector; and

(d) if so, the action plan of Government to address the above problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) Talk of a so-called red corridor is baseless propaganda.

Steps as appropriate are taken for dealing with the naxalite activities, having regard to the situation obtaining and the various inputs received from time to time.

Law and order being a State subject, State Governments concerned undertake necessary action to deal with naxalite activities.

The Central Government supplements the efforts and resources of the State Governments by various means, which include deployment of Central paramilitary forces to assist the State police forces, sanctioning of India Reserve battalions to the States, assistance for strengthening of the State police and intelligence agencies, reimbursement of security-related expenditure, assistance in training of State police forces, sharing of intelligence, bringing about inter-State coordination and assistance in development works.

Amendment to prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 by Maharashtra

323. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Maharashtra amended the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 so as to make all punishable offences cognizable and non-bailable;

(b) whether it is also a fact that presently the proposal is pending with the Ministry for comments;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) by when his Ministry propose to send the above mentioned Bill for assent of President of India; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) The Prevention of Food Adulteration (Maharashtra Amendment) Bill, 2006 passed by the Maharashtra Legislature was reserved by the Governor of Maharashtra for assent of President under Article 200 of the Constitution of India. The Bill provides for making all offences punishable under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, congnizable and non-bailable, so far its application to the State of Maharashtra is concerned.

(b) No, Sir. The President has given her assent to the Bill on 28th October, 2007. This fact has been communicated to the Secretary to the Governor of Maharashtra through a letter dated 31st October, 2007.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

Violation of rules by Blue line buses

324. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Blue line buses in Delhi overtake from the left side;

(b) if so, to what extent overtaking from the left side is in violation of MVA and rules framed thereunder;

(c) the number of Blue line buses booked for violating the overtaking from the left; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to amend the Act to impose stricter fine and jail to the drivers committing the offence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (d) The Supreme Court of India in CWP No. 13029/85-MC Mehta Vs. UOI & Others in its direction dated 20.11.1997 has ordered that "In view the scheme of the Act necessarily implies an obligation to use the vehicle in a manner which does not imperil public safety. The authorities aforesaid should, therefore ensure that the transport vehicles are not permitted to overtake any other four-wheel motorized vehicle". In view of the above, the transport vehicles including blue line buses in Delhi are not permitted to overtake any other four wheeled motorized vehicle. The